

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY REPUBLIÇAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Tom Getz, Chairman

1721 5th Ave., Ste. 100 Moline, Illinois 61265

Phone: 309/764-6262 Fax: 309/764-5818

September 18, 2000

Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: MUR 5031

Dear General Counsel:

With the General Election just seven weeks away, I am growing increasingly concerned that the illegal activities outlined in our complaint (MUR 5031) will be repeated this fall and nothing will prohibit the involved parties from, again, unfairly influencing the outcome of the 17th District Congressional race. This is why I am writing to you requesting the Federal Election Commission to make an expedited decision regarding this matter.

I have enclosed additional information to support my suspicions that the illegal activities contained in our complaint will be repeated this fall.

Additionally, please note that our address has changed to 1721 5th Ave., Ste 100, Moline, Illinois 61265.

Sincerely,

Tom Getz Chairman

Signed and sworn to before me, on September 18, 2000

(SEAL)

"OFFICIAL SEAL"

CAROL HANTZ

Notary Public, State of lithols

My Commission Exotres 5-8-2003

Notary Public

COMPLAINANT: Rock Island County Republican Central Committee

1721 5th Ave., Ste. 100 Moline, IL 61265

RESPONDENTS: Friends of Lane Evans

P O Box 5263 1800 3rd Avenue Rock Island, IL 61204

Lane Evans

Congressman, 17th District, IL

P O Box 5263 1800 3rd Avenue Rock Island, IL 61204

Samuel M. Gılman

Treasurer, Friends of Lane Evans Committee

P.O. Box 5263 1800 3rd Avenue

Rock Island, IL 61204

Eric Nelson

Assistant Treasurer, Friends of Lane Evans Committee

2028 7th Avenue

Apt. 2B

Moline, IL 61265

Democratic Party of Illinois

PO. Box 518

Springfield, Illinois 62705

Michael J. Madigan,

Chairman, Democratic Party of Illinois

P.O. Box 518

Springfield, Illinois 62705

Michael J Kasper

Treasurer, Democratic Party of Illinois

P.O Box 518

Springfield, Illinois 62705

Rock Island Democratic Central Committee

PO Box 3128

1800 3rd Avenue

Rock Island, IL 61204

John Gianulis Chairman, Rock Island Democratic Central Committee Chairman, 17th District Victory Fund 9226 78th Avenue, West Andalusia, IL 61232

Walter J Tiller Treasurer, Rock Island Democratic Central Committee 2821 – 7 ½ Street E. Moline, IL 61244

17th District Victory Fund P.O. Box 4482 Rock Island, IL 61204

Connie Engholm Treasurer, 17th District Victory Fund 2514 N. Campbell #3 Chicago, IL 60647

Knox County Democratic Central Committee 869 Beecher Avenue Galesburg, IL 61401

Janet K. Hill Chairman, Knox County Democratic Central Committee 1072 Grand Avenue Galesburg, IL 61401

Jeremy S. Karlin Treasurer, Knox County Democratic Central Committee 869 Beecher Avenue Galesburg, IL 61401

(Please note that while there are many people, particularly Democrat elected officials, specifically named on the attached printed material, we, the Rock Island County Republican Central Committee, do not believe, at this time, that these individuals were active participants in the following violations of FEC law Therefore, we purposely didn't include them in the complaint However, should evidence surface that implicates these individuals as being involved in the mentioned activities and violations, we would like to reserve the right to amend this complaint to include them as respondents)

Supplemental Information to Complaint (MUR 5031)

Potential failure to report in-kind contributions

According to FEC law, an individual may volunteer uncompensated personal services to a party committee without making a contribution 10017 (b) (3) Volunteer activity is not reportable Note, however, that if volunteers are in fact paid for their services by someone other than the party committee, the activity is no longer considered volunteering, and the payments result in inkind contributions to the party committee 100 7 (a) (3)

While volunteering, an individual may pay for normal subsistence expenses (lodging and meals) without making a contribution 100 7 (b) (8)

The 17th District Victory Fund has paid Strategic Consulting Group who will pay for the services and living expenses of 15 people who will work for the committee. Therefore, their activities are not considered volunteer activities and should be reported. Based on information and belief, these services will not be reported as in-kind contributions

- According to an article in the Moline Dispatch, 15 people from all over the country will be coming into the 17th District to work for the 17th District Victory Fund (See Appendix 15).
- According to their July 2000 Quarterly FEC report, the 17th District Victory Fund has paid \$22,500 to Strategic Consulting Group Based on information and belief, this is partial payment to Strategic Consulting Group for living expenses and salaries of these 15 workers (Appendix 16).

Appendix 15





July 10, 2000 12:33 AM

Democrats back with outside help

By Bethany Behrhorst, Dispatch/Argus Staff writer

Democrats will get help from friends outside the 17th Congressional District again this election cycle, something that upsets some Republican leaders.

Volunteers from around the country first came to the district in 1998 to bolster support for Democratic candidates on ballots in the 14-county area

The volunteers, part of a national ``campaign school," are given extensive training, then sent to work for Democrats in congressional districts anticipating tough races

"They're a bunch of good Democrats," said Genie Dunn, a Nashville. Tenn., native who recently was in the Quad-Cities.

Ms Dunn, 25, field director for the 17th Congressional District campaign school, has been active in politics since 1994 and works for Chicago-based Strategic Consulting Group, which sets up the schools across the country.

"The 12- and 16-hour days I put in seem like regular eight- or nine-hour days," she said. "I love the work."

Republican leaders say the school is just a Democratic tool to get votes for 17th District Democratic incumbent Lane Evans of Rock Island, who is facing GOP challenger Mark Baker of Quincy for the third time.

Rock Island County Democratic Party chairman John Gianulis said that, in 1998, student volunteers knocked on doors, canvassed, and rallied 'grassroots support" for federal, state and county Democratic candidates. including Mr Evans.

They will do it again this time, he said

The campaign school expects about 15 college-age-and-older adults, all from other parts of the country, Ms Dunn said Volunteers are selected because of their interest in politics and can decide on which campaign to work

"We have one man from California who decided he wanted to come to the 17th District because he served in the Marine Corps," Ms. Dunn said. "And one woman lost her husband to complications caused by Agent Orange exposure

"These people know that Congressman Evans has fought for veterans" rights and the rights of seniors, as well as to preserve the environment, and that's why they want to offer their support," she said

Volunteers will stay in the homes of district Democrats. Mileage reimbursement, and \$100 a week for food and whatever else they might need, is all they receive from the 17th District Victory Fund, Ms. Dunn said

"If they have car payments and other bills, they have to come up with some http://www.qconline.com/qcnews/archive2000/July/07102000/metb.html



way to pay them during the four months they'll work on the campaign," she said

The 17th District Victory Fund is a local Democratic Party committee with the aim of promoting Democratic candidates throughout Western Illinois.

Ms. Dunn, who has degrees in political science and journalism from Western Kentucky University, said she enjoys helping volunteers learn more about the political process.

Mr Gianulis praised the volunteers' work "They're very much involved in our everyday activities"

The group's focus this time will be "at the top of the ticket," Mr Gianulis said. Because it's a presidential election year, he said, he's optimistic more voters will turn out at the polls.

"We know these volunteers will have a great impact on the turnout of the election," he said "They'll be very much part of the campaign."

Rock Island County Republican leaders filed a Federal Election Commission complaint last month against Mr Evans and four Democratic committees, including the 17th District Victory Fund. The complaint alleges the Victory Fund should be counted as an in-kind contribution to Mr Evans' re-election campaign.

A Republican Party statement, released separately from the complaint, accused Mr. Gianulis, 17th District Victory Fund treasurer Connie Engholm, and other Democratic leaders of having a conflict of interest because they are involved in more than one Democratic party-building group, some of which they say have direct ties to the Evans campaign

Rock Island County Republican chairman Tom Getz said the four committees listed in the FEC complaint — the Victory Fund, Rock Island County and Knox County Democratic Central committees, and Democratic Party of Illinois — "together have funneled literally hundreds of thousands of dollars in illegal soft money through at least four separate committees to pay for advertising urging Evans' re-election."

He added, "Lane Evans and the Rock Island County Democrat machine have shown complete disragard for playing by the rules when they think they can gain advantage by ignoring them."

The 17th District Victory Fund is funded primarily by labor unions, some individuals, and Democratic Party committees. A campaign contributions and expenditures report filed with the State Board of Elections in 1999 showed nearly \$250,000 was raised for 1998.

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Appendix 16

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